



2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20037-3213
T 202.293.7060
F 202.293.7860

www.sughrue.com

FAX

Date February 27, 2004

To Examiner Steven Maki

Of US Patent & Trademark Office

Fax 571-273-1221

From Jeffrey A. Schmidt

Subject **DRAFT Claim Amendments for Discussion During Interview**

Our Ref Q64239 Your Ref TARK01/C/US

Pages 2
(including cover sheet)

Please call attention to problems with this transmission by return fax or telephone. Thank you.

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS COMMUNICATION IS CONFIDENTIAL, MAY BE ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGED, AND IS INTENDED ONLY FOR THE USE OF THE ADDRESSEE. UNAUTHORIZED USE, DISCLOSURE OR COPYING IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED AND MAY BE UNLAWFUL IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED THIS COMMUNICATION IN ERROR, PLEASE IMMEDIATELY NOTIFY US.

Dear Examiner Maki:

Attached, please find DRAFT claim amendments for discussion during our interview scheduled for March 2, 2004 at 2:00PM. If there is anything else you would like, please contact me.

Very truly yours,

Jeffrey A. Schmidt
#41,574

DRAFT Claim Amendments for discussion during interview
US Appl. 09/782,036

Atty. Docket: Q64239

In the claims:

15. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the thermoplastic material on one of the first and second substrates ~~is scattered to form~~ forms, on heating, a saturation layer to receive a basecoat layer.

16. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the thermoplastic material on one of the first and second substrates ~~is scattered to form~~ forms, on heating, a basecoat layer.

17. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 16, wherein ~~the basecoat is formed by a method including the steps of:~~ the first substrate includes a saturation layer and the thermoplastic scattered onto the first substrate includes a basecoat-forming material, and
~~scattering a basecoat-forming material as the thermoplastic material onto a saturation layer of the first substrate; and~~
~~the applying heat forms~~ wherein the thermoplastic on the first substrate forms, upon the heat applying, a basecoat layer on the saturation layer.

19. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1 including the steps of:
scattering a first thermoplastic material onto a first ~~belt~~ one of said pair of belts;
and
applying the first substrate over the first thermoplastic material, wherein the first substrate is not one of said pair of belts,
wherein said scattering of powder, granules or pellets onto a first substrate comprises scattering a second thermoplastic material onto the first substrate, and
further wherein said applying heat to fuse the coatings comprises fusing the thermoplastic material to form a backing layer on one face of the first substrate and a saturation or basecoat layer on the other face of the first substrate.